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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7: B41M 5/30, C07C 311/60, 317/50, 311/62, 311/51

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 00/35679

(43) International Publication Date:

22 June 2000 (22.06.00)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP99/09473

(22) International Filing Date:

3 December 1999 (03.12.99)

(30) Priority Data:

9827569.6

16 December 1998 (16.12.98)

GB

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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: HEAT SENSITIVE RECORDING MATERIAL

$$R_1 - N - X - N - A - B - R_2$$
 (1)

(57) Abstract

A heat sensitive recording material, comprising a) at least one colour forming compound, and b) at least one developer of formula (1), wherein R₁ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, X is a group of formula (i), (ii) or (iii), A is unsubstituted or substituted phenylene, naphthylene or C1-C12 alkylene, or is an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic group, B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O-, -NH-SO₂-, -SO₂-NH-, -S-SO₂-, -O-CO-, -O-CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, -NH-CO-O-, -S-CO-NH-, -S-CS-NH-, -CO-NH-SO₂-, -O-CO-NH-SO₂-, -NH=CH-, -CO-NH-CO-, -S-, -CO-, -O-, -SO₂-NH-CO-, -O-CO-O- and -O-PO-(OR2)2, and R2 is unsubstituted or substituted aryl or benzyl or C1-C20alkyl, with the proviso, that, if B is not a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, R₂ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₈ alkyl and that, if B is -O-, R₂ is not alkyl.

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Heat Sensitive Recording Material

The present invention relates to heat sensitive recording materials. It more particularly relates to such recording material in the form of a supporting substrate, for example, a paper sheet, synthetic paper sheet or plastic resin film coated with colour-forming systems comprising a colourless or pale coloured electron donative compound (colour forming compound) and an organic electron acceptor (developer).

Heat sensitive recording has conventionally been used as a system for recording transferred information through the mediation of heat, by utilising a colour reaction between a colour forming compound and a developer.

The properties which are most desirable in a colour forming material, in addition to the effective development of colour, are thermal response, background whiteness and image stability, especially light fastness of the developed colour, heat and moisture fastness of the developed colour, oil fastness of the developed colour, plasticiser resistance of the developed colour and water fastness of the developed colour.

A need exists to improve the above properties and to improve the archival capabilities of such recording materials. It is an object of the present invention to provide heat sensitive recording materials with improved properties, especially to provide an increase in image stability whilst improving the background whiteness of the paper before imaging and the background whiteness of the undeveloped portion after imaging.

The present invention is directed to a heat sensitive recording material, comprising a) at least one colour forming compound, and

b) at least one developer of the formula

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ | | \\ S - N - X - N - A - B - R_2 \\ O \end{array}$$
 (1).

wherein

R₁ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl,

X is a group of the formula
$$\begin{vmatrix} NH & S & O \\ || & & || & or & || \\ -C- & -C- & -C- \end{vmatrix}$$

A is unsubstituted or substituted phenylene, naphthylene or C_1 - C_{12} alkylene, or is an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic group,

B is a linking group of formula $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-NH-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-NH-$, $-S-SO_2-$, -O-CO-, -O-CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, -NH-CO-O-, -S-CO-NH-, -S-CS-NH-, $-CO-NH-SO_2-$, $-O-CO-NH-SO_2-$, -NH=CH-, -CO-NH-CO-, -S-, -CO-, -O-, $-SO_2-NH-CO-$, -O-CO-O- and $-O-PO-(OR_2)_2$, and R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted aryl or benzyl or C_1-C_2 0 alkyl, with the proviso, that, if B is not a linking group of formula $-O-SO_2-$, R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C_1-C_8 1 alkyl and that, if B is -O-, R_2 is not alkyl.

 R_1 as phenyl or naphthyl can be unsubstituted or substituted by, for example, C_1 - C_0 alkyl, C_1 - C_0 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially methyl or ethyl, C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R_1 as naphthyl is preferably unsubstituted. R_1 as phenyl is preferably substituted, especially by one of the above alkyl substituents.

 R_1 as C_1 - C_{20} alkyl can be unsubstituted or substituted by, for example C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, especially methoxy or ethoxy, or halogen, especially chlorine. R_1 as C_1 - C_{20} alkyl is preferably unsubstituted.

Preferably, R₁ is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen. Of most importance are the substituted phenyl groups. Highly preferred are phenyl groups which are substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl, preferably by methyl.

A as a phenylene or naphthylene group can be unsubstituted or substituted by, for example, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl. Preferred alkyl and alkoxy substituents are those containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkyl-sulphonyl or halogen. A as a naphthylene group is preferably unsubstituted.

A as a heterocyclic group is preferably pyrimidylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_8 alkyl, especially by C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

A as a C_1 - C_{12} alkylene group is preferably C_1 - C_8 alkylene, especially C_1 - C_4 alkylene.

Preferred groups A are phenylene groups which are unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl, especially C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulphonyl or halogen.

Highly preferred groups A are phenylene groups which are unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl or halogen, especially unsubstituted phenylene groups.

Preferred linking groups B are those of formulae -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O-, -SO₂-NH-, -S-SO₂-, -O-, -O-CO- and -O-CO-NH-, especially linking groups of formulae -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O- and -SO₂-NH-. Highly preferred are the linking groups B of formula -O-SO₂- and -O-.

 R_2 as aryl is preferably phenyl or naphthyl which can be unsubstituted or substituted by, for example, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen. Preferred alkyl and alkoxy substituents are those containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Preferred substituents are C_1 - C_4 alkyl and halogen. R_2 as naphthyl is preferably unsubstituted.

 R_2 as benzyl can be substituted by the substituents given for R_2 as phenyl or naphthyl. Unsubstituted benzyl is preferred.

 R_2 as C_1 - C_{20} alkyl is preferably C_1 - C_8 alkyl, especially C_1 - C_6 alkyl, and can be unsubstituted or substituted by, for example, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen, phenyl or naphthyl. Preferred are the unsubstituted alkyl groups, especially C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

Preferred groups R_2 are C_1 - C_6 alkyl; halogen-substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl; phenyl-substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl; naphthyl-substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl; phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy or halogen; naphthyl and benzyl which is substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl or halogen.

Highly preferred groups R_2 are C_1 - C_4 alkyl; halogen-substituted C_1 - C_4 alkyl; phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl or halogen; naphthyl and benzyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl or halogen, especially phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

Preferred are developers of formula (1), wherein R₁ is phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl, preferably by methyl,

X is a group of the formula

A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, preferably unsubstituted phenylene, like 1,3-phenylene,

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO2- or -O- and

R₂ is phenyl, naphthyl or benzyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, especially phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl.

The compounds of formula (1) can be prepared in accordance with schemes 1-3 below;

2.
$$R_1 - S - NH_2 + R_2 - B - A - N = C = X$$

$$R_1 - S - NH_2 + R_2 - B - A - N = C = X$$

$$O = R_1 - S - N - N - A - B - R_2$$

$$O = R_1 - S - N - N - A - B - R_2$$

3.
$$R_1 = S - N \longrightarrow O - E + R_2 = B - A - NH_2 \longrightarrow R_1 = S - N \longrightarrow N - A - B - R_2$$

where R₁, R₂, A, B and X are as defined above and E is alkyl or aryl.

Furthermore, in the case where the species H₂N-A-B-H is available the compounds of formula (1) can be prepared in accordance with scheme 4 below;

4.
$$R_1 = S - N = C = X + H - B - A - NH_2$$

$$R_1 = S - N + N - A - B - H$$

$$R_1 = S - N + N - A - B - R_1$$

$$R_1 = S - N + N - A - B - R_1$$

$$R_1 = S - N + N - A - B - R_1$$

$$R_1 = S - N + N - A - B - R_1$$

In the case of schemes 1, 2 and 4 the R₁-sulphonylisocyanate (or R₁-sulphonamide) is reacted with R₂-amine (or R₂-isocyanate) in the presence or absence of an organic solvent. Preferably in the presence of an (apolar or polar) aprotic solvent such as aromatic hydrocarbons, chlorinated aromatic hydrocarbons, aliphatic or alicyclic hydrocarbons, chlorinated hydrocarbons, dialkylacylamides, aliphatic esters, aliphatic ketones, alicyclic ketones, aliphatic ethers, cyclic ethers, alkylnitriles and mixtures thereof. Most preferred are toluene, xylenes, petroleum ether, cyclohexane, dimethyl formamide, dimethylacetamide,

ethylacetate, propyl acetate, butylacetate, diethylether, dibutylether, tetrahydrofuran, acetone, butanone, cyclohexanone, nitromethane, acetonitrile, propionitrile, nitromethane, ethyleneglycoldimethylether, chloroform, dichloromethane, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, dioxan or mixtures thereof. Polar protic solvents such as alcohols may also be used. The reaction is preferably carried out at 0-100°C preferably 0-40°C for up to 12 hours. The reaction may further be catalysed by tertiary amines, carboxylic acids, amides or ureas.

In the case of scheme 3, the reaction of carbamate R₁SO₂NHCXOE with amine R₂BANH₂ may be carried out in excess amine, water, organic solvent or mixture thereof in the presence or absence of an inorganic or organic base. Typical solvents include those discussed hereinbefore. Bases used include alkali metal carbonates (K₂CO₃, Na₂CO₃), alkali metal hydroxides (NaOH, KOH), alkali metal alkoxides (sodium methoxide), pyridine, tertiary amines such as triethylamine, diisopropylethylamine.

Many syntheses are known for sulphonyl ureas and are incorporated herein by reference (J.Med.Chem., 1990, (33), 9, 2393, Chem.Rev., 1952, (50), 1, Chem.Rev., 1965, (65), 365).

In addition, the present invention is directed to novel compounds of formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} O & & & & \\ \hline O & & & & \\ \hline - S & - N & & X - N & \\ \hline O & & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

wherein

 R_1 is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C_1 - C_{20} alkyl, R_3 and R_4 independently of each other are hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, halogen-substituted C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_1 - C_8 alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl,

X is a group of the formula
$$\begin{vmatrix} NH & S & O \\ -C & -C - & -C - \end{vmatrix}$$
, or $\begin{vmatrix} -C & -C & -C - \\ -C & -C - \end{vmatrix}$,

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O-, -SO₂-NH-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-SO₂-, -SO₂-NH-CO-, -O-CO-O- or -O-PO-(OR₂)₂ and R₂ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl, with the proviso, that, if B is not a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, R₂ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₈alkyl.

As to R₁, R₂, X and B the above preferences apply.

Preferably, R₃ and R₄ are hydrogen, C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulphonyl or halogen. Preferred alkyl and alkoxy groups R₃ and R₄ contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Highly preferred groups R₃ and R₄ are hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, especially hydrogen.

Of importance are compounds of formula (2), wherein R₁ is phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl, preferably by methyl,

X is a group of the formula

R₃ and R₄ independently of each other are hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, preferably hydrogen,

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, and

 R_2 is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially phenyl which is substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

The compounds of formula (2) can be prepared as given above for the compounds of formula (1).

The colour forming compounds are, for example, triphenylmethanes, lactones, benzoxazines, spiropyrans or preferably fluorans.

Preferred colour formers include but are not limited to; 3-diethylamino-6-methylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino)

methyl-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-n-octylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino -7-(4-n-octylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino -7-(n-octylamino) fluoran. 3-diethylamino -7-(dibenzylamino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(dibenzylamino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-methylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-t-butylfluoran, 3diethylamino -7-carboxyethylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran, 3diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(4methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-ethoxyethyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-7methylfluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-chlorofluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-benzo[a] fluoran, 3-diethylamino-benzo[c] fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7dibenzylaminofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-7-anilinofluoran, 3dibutylamino-6-methyl fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(2-fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6ethoxyethyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-chloro-anilinofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2fluoroanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(N-methyl-N-formylamino) fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-(4-2-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3dipentylamino-7-(3-trifluoromethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dipentylamino-7-(4-chloroanilino) fluoran, 3-pyrrolidino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3piperidino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-p-toluidino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-Nisoamylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-chloro-7anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-Nisobutylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-butyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-methyl-7anilinofluoran, 3-(N-isopropyl-N-3-pentylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-Nethoxypropylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-cyclohexylamino-6-chlorofluoran, 2-methyl-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2-methoxy-6-p-(pdimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2-chloro-3-methyl-6-p-(pphenylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2-diethylamino-6-p-(pdimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2-phenyl-6-methyl--6-p-(pphenylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2-benzyl-6-p-(pphenylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 3-methyl-6-p-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-p-(p-diethylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-p-(p-dibutylaminophenyl)aminoanilinofluoran, 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino] fluoran, 3-[(4-dimethylaminophenyl)amino]-5,7-dimethylfluoran, 3,6,6'-tris(dimethylamino)spiro[fluorene-9,3'-phthalide], 3,6,6'-tris(diethylamino)spiro[fluorene-9,3'-phthalide]. 3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-6-dimethylaminophthalide, 3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)phthalide, 3,3-bis-[2-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-2-(p-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl-4,5,6,7tetrabromophthalide, 3,3-bis-[2-(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-2-(p-methoxyphenyl)ethenyl-4.5.6.7-tetrachlorophthalide, 3,3-bis[1,1-bis(4-pyrrolidinophenyl)ethylene-2-yl]-4,5,6,7tetrabromophthalide, 3,3-bis-[1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-pyrridinophenyl)ethylene-2-yl]-4,5,6,7-tetrachlorophthalide, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4azaphthalide, 3-(4-cyclohexylethylamino-2-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3-yl)-4azaphthalide, 3,3-bis(1-ethyl-2-methylindole-3-yl) phthalide, 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3yl) phthalide, mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine, 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene)bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl) bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine], bis(Nmethyldiphenylamine)-4-yl-(N-butylcarbazole)-3-yl-methane and mixtures thereof.

All of the above colour forming compounds can be used singly or as a mixture with other colour forming compounds; or they may also be used together with further black colour forming compounds.

Highly preferred are 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran, 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-methyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran, 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino)fluoran, 3-N-ethyl-p-toluidino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 3-(N-ethyl-N-anilinofluoran, 3-N-ethyl-N-ethoxypropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran, 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino)fluoran, 3-(4-diethylamino-2-ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-methylindole-3yl)-4-azaphthalide, 3,3-bis(p-dimethylamino-phenyl)-6-dimethylaminophthalide and mixtures thereof.

It is also possible to use solid solutions comprising at least two colour forming compounds.

A monophase (or single-phase or guest-host) solid solution possesses a crystal lattice which is identical with the crystal lattice of one of its components. One component is embedded as the 'guest' in the crystal lattice of the other component, which acts as the 'host'. The X-ray diffraction pattern of such a monophase solid solution is substantially identical to that of one of the components, called the 'host'. Within certain limits, different proportions of the components produce almost identical results.

In the literature, the definitions by the various authors, such as, G.H.Van't Hoff, A.I.Kitaigorodsky and A.Whitacker for solid solutions and mixed crystals are often contradictory, (cf, e.g. 'Analytical Chemistry of Synthetic Dyes', Chapter 10/page 269, Editor K.Venkataraman, J.Wiley, New York, 1977).

The term 'monophase solid solution' or 'multiphase solid solution' or mixed crystal', as defined herein, therefore, should be taken from the following definitions, which have been adapted to the current improved state of knowledge of such systems:

A monophase (or single-phase or guest-host) solid solution possesses a crystal lattice which is identical with the crystal lattice of one of its components. One component is embedded as the 'guest' in the crystal lattice of the other component, which acts as the 'host'. The X-ray diffraction pattern of such a monophase solid solution is substantially identical to that of one of the components, called the 'host'. Within certain limits, different proportions of the components produce almost identical results.

A multiphase solid solution possesses no precise, uniform crystal lattice. It differs from a physical mixture of its components in that the crystal lattice of at least one of its components is partially or competely altered. In comparison to a physical mixture of the components, which gives an X-ray diffraction diagram that is additive of the diagrams seen for the individual components. The signals in the X-ray diffraction diagram of a multiphase solid solution are broadened, shifted or altered in intensity. In general, different proportions of the components produce different results.

A mixed crystal (or solid compound type) solid solution possesses a precise composition and a uniform crystal lattice, which is different from the crystal lattices of all its components. If

different proportions of the components lead, within certain limits, to the same result, then a solid solution is present in which the mixed crystal acts as a host.

For the avoidance of doubt it may also be pointed out that, inter alia, there may also be amorphous structures and mixed aggregates consisting of different particles of different physical type, such as, for example, an aggregate of different components each in pure crystal modification. Such amorphous structures and mixed aggregates cannot be equated with either solid solutions or mixed crystals, and possess different fundamental properties.

As hereinbefore detailed, the monophase solid solutions comprise a plurality of colour compounds. Suitable colour forming materials which may be included in the solid solutions are those given above.

Of particular interest are the following monophase solid solutions:

- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-dibenzylaminofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-methylanilino) fluoran;

- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(2,4-dimethylanilino) fluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-(N-methyl-N-propylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-chloro-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-dibutylamino-7-(2-chloroanilino)fluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-ethyl-p-toluidino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-(N-ethyl-N-tetrahydrofurfurylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-(N-ethyl-N-isobutylamino)-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-ethyl-N-ethoxypropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 2,4-dimethyl-6-[(4-dimethylamino)anilino]fluoran
- 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran:
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)aminofluoran and 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-
- (4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-
- diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine;
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran and 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene)bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine].
- In the above monophase solid solutions the first compound is in a molar ratio of 75 to 99.9% by mole, the second compound is in a ratio of 25 to 0.1% by mole.

Examples of monophase solid solutions comprising two components A and B in the stated ratios are: 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (99.9%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (0.1%);

- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (99%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (1%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%) and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%) and 3-N-2-pentyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%) and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%) and 3-N-isopropyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%) and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%) and 3-N-Cyclohexylmethyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%) and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%) and 3-dipropylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%) and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%) and 3-N-2-butyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (85%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (15%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (95%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (5%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);

- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3-N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%), 3-N-isoamyl-N-ethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%), 3-N-propyl-N-methylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (10%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)aminofluoran (90%);
- 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (20%), 3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-(3-tolyl)aminofluoran (80%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide (10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 3,3-bis(1-octyl-2-methylindol-3-yl)phthalide(20%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-
- diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine(10%);
- 3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), mixture of 2-phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine and 2-

phenyl-4-(4-diethylaminophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-7-dimethylamino-3,1-benzoxazine(20%);

3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (90%), 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene)bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine](10%);
3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran (80%), 4,4'-[1-methylethylidene)bis(4,1-phenyleneoxy-4,2-quinazolinediyl)]bis[N,N-diethylbenzenamine] (20%).

The monophase solid solutions can be used singly or as a mixture with other colour forming compounds such as triphenylmethanes, lactones, fluorans, benzoxazines and spiropyrans; or they may also be used together with further black colour forming compounds. Examples of such other colour forming compounds are given hereinbefore.

The monophase solid solutions can be prepared by a variety of methods. One such method is the recrystallisation method wherein a physical mixture of the desired components is dissolved, with or without heating, in a suitable solvent or solvent mixture. Suitable solvents include but are not limited to toluene, benzene, xylene, dichlorobenzene, chlorobenzene, 1,2-dichloroethane, methanol, ethanol, iso-propanol, n-butanol, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide or mixtures of these solvents with each other and with water. The monophase solid solution is then isolated by crystallisation from the solvent or solvent mixture. This can be brought about by cooling, standing, addition of a further solvent to promote crystallisation or concentration by standard means such as distillation, steam distillation and vacuum distillation. When the monophase solid solution is isolated by concentration it may be advantageous to do so in the presence of a small amount of base, to improve the visual aspect of the isolated product.

Alternatively, monophase solid solutions can be prepared from mixtures of the appropriate starting materials. The technique can be used to produce mixtures of two or more fluorans or phthalides. For example, mixtures of two fluorans are produced by replacing a single starting material with two analogous materials to the same total molar concentration in the reaction. In the case of fluorans, these starting materials are derivatives of amino phenols, phthalic anhydrides, keto acids and diphenylamines.

In addition, the heat sensitive recording material can contain a previously known developer, unless the colour forming performance of the resultant heat sensitive material is disturbed thereby. Such developers are exemplified by but not limited to; 4,4'-isopropylidene

bisphenol, 4.4'-sec-butylidene bisphenol, 4,4'-cyclohexylidene bisphenol, 2,2-bis-(4hydroxyphenyl)-4-methylpentane, 2,2-dimethyl-3,3-di(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 2,2'dihydroxydiphenyl, 1-phenyl-1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 4-phenyl-2,2-bis(4hydroxyphenyl)butane, 1-phenyl-2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, 2,2-bis(4'-hydroxy-3'methylphenyl)-4-methylpentane, 2,2-bis(4'-hydroxy-3'-tert-butyllphenyl)-4-methylpentane. 4.4'-sec-butylidene-bis (2-methylphenol), 4,4'-isopropylidene-bis (2-tert-butylphenol), 2,2bis(4'-hydroxy-3'-isopropylphenyl)-4-methylpentane, allyl-4,4-bis (4'-hydroxyphenyl) pentanoate, propargyl-4,4-bis(4'-hydroxyphenyl) pentanoate, n-propyl-4,4-bis (4'hydroxyphenyl) pentanoate, 2,4-bis (phenylsulfonyl) phenol, 2-(4-methylsulfonyl)-4-(phenylsulfonyl) phenol, 2-(phenylsulfonyl)-4-(4-methylsulfonyl) phenol, 2,4-bis (4methylphenylsulfonyl) phenol, pentamethylene-bis(4-hydroxybenzoate), 2,2-dimethyl-3,3di(4-hydroxyphenyl)pentane, 2,2-di(4-hydroxyphenyl)hexane, 4,4'-dihydroxydiphenyl thioether, 1,7-di(4-hydroxyphenylthio)-3,5-dioxaheptane, 2,2'-bis(4-hydroxyphenylthio)diethyl ether, 4.4'-dihydroxy-3.3'-dimethylphenyl thioether; benzyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl-4hydroxybenzoate, propyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, isopropyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, butyl-4hydroxybenzoate, isobutyl-4-hydroxybenzoate, 4,4'-dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone, 2,4'dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'-methyldiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'isopropoxydiphenyl sulfone, 4-hydroxy-4'-butoxydiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3'diallyldiphenyl sulfone, 3,4-dihydroxy-4'-methyldiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3',5,5'tetrabromodiphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-bis (p-toluenesulphonylaminocarbonylamino) diphenylmethane, N-p-toluenesulphonyl-N'-phenyl urea, dimethyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, dicyclohexyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, diphenyl 4-hydroxyphthalate, 4-[2-(4methoxyphenyloxy)ethyloxy] salicylate, 3,5-di-tert-butylsalicylic acid, 3-benzyl salicylic acid, 3-(α -methylbenzyl) salicylic acid, 3-phenyl-5-(α , α -dimethylbenzyl) salicylic acid, 3.5-di- α methylbenzyl salicylic acid; metal salts of salicylic acid, 2-benzylsulfonylbenzoic acid. 3cyclohexyl-4-hydroxybenzoic acid, zinc benzoate, zinc 4-nitrobenzoate, 4-(4'phenoxybutoxy)phthalic acid, 4-(2'-phenoxyethoxy)phthalic acid, 4-(3'phenylpropyloxy)phthalic acid, mono (2-hydroxyethyl) -5-nitro-isophthalic acid, 5benzyloxycarbonyl isophthalic acid, 5-(1'-phenylethanesulfonyl) isophthalic acid, bis(1,2dihydro-1,5-dimethyl-2-phenyl-3H-pyrazol-3-one-O)bis(thiocyanato-N) zinc and mixtures thereof.

In addition, the heat sensitive recording material of the invention can contain a sensitiser.

Representative examples of sensitiser are stearamide, methylol stearamide, p-benzylbiphenyl, m-terphenyl, 2-benzyloxynaphthalene, 4-methoxybiphenyl, dibenzyl oxalate, di(4-methylbenzyl) oxalate, di(4-chlorobenzyl) oxalate, dimethyl phthalate, dibenzyl terephthalate, dibenzyl isophthalate, 1,2-diphenoxyethane, 1,2-bis(4-methylphenoxy) ethane, 1,2-bis(3-methylphenoxy) ethane, 4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl, phenyl-1-hydroxy-2-naphthoate, 4-methylphenyl biphenyl ether, 1,2-bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl) ethane, 2,3,5,6-4'-methyldiphenyl methane, 1,4-diethoxynaphthalene, 1,4-diacetoxybenzene, 1,4-diproprionoxybenzene, oxylylene-bis(phenyl ether), 4-(m-methylphenoxymethyl) biphenyl, p-hydroxyacetanilide, p-hydroxybutyranilide, p-hydroxynonananilide, p-hydroxylauranilide, p-hydroxyoctadecananilide, N-phenyl-phenylsulphonamide and sensitisers of the formula

wherein R and R' are identical or different from each other and each represent C₁-C₆alkyl.

Examples of R and R' are methyl, ethyl, n- or iso-propyl and n-, sec- or tert-butyl.

The substituents R and R' are identical or different from each other and each are preferably C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially methyl or ethyl, in particular ethyl.

The above sensitisers are known or can be prepared according to known methods.

In addition, the heat sensitive recording material of the invention can contain a stabiliser.

Representative stabilisers for use in heat sensitive recording materials include 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-ethyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-butylidene-bis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-thio-bis(2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenyl) butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cyclohexylphenyl) butane, bis (3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-6-methylphenyl) sulfone, bis (3,5-

dibromo-4-hydroxyphenyl) sulfone, 4,4'-sulfinyl bis (2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylene bis (4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate and alkali metal, ammonium and polyvalent metal salts thereof, 4-benzyloxy-4'-(2-methylglycidyloxy) diphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-diglycidyloxydiphenyl sulfone, 1,4-diglycidyloxybenzene, 4-[α-(hydroxymethyl)benzyloxy]-4-hydroxydiphenyl sulfone, metal salts of p-nitrobenzoic acid, metal salts of phthalic acid mono benzyl ester, metal salts of cinnamic acid and mixtures thereof.

Preferred stabilisers are 4,4'-butylidene-bis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-thio-bis(2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenyl) butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cyclohexylphenyl) butane, 4-benzyloxy-4'-(2-methylglycidyloxy) diphenyl sulfone and mixtures thereof.

The heat sensitive recording material of the invention can be prepared according to conventional methods. For example, at least one colour forming compound, at least one developer and, if desired, at least one sensitiser are pulverised separately in water or a suitable dispersing medium, such as aqueous polyvinyl alcohol, to form an aqueous or other dispersion. If desired a stabiliser is treated in the same manner. The fine particle dispersions thus obtained are combined and then mixed with conventional amounts of binder, filler and lubricant.

Representative binders used for the heat sensitive recording material include polyvinyl alcohol (fully and partially hydrolysed), carboxy, amide, sulfonic and butyral modified polyvinyl alcohols, derivatives of cellulose such as hydroxyethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose and acetyl cellulose, copolymer of styrene-maleic anhydride, copolymer of styrene-butadiene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polyacrylamide, polyamide resin and mixtures thereof.

Exemplary fillers which can be used include calcium carbonate, kaolin, calcined kaolin, aluminium hydroxide, talc, titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, silica, polystyrene resin, ureaformaldehyde resin, hollow plastic pigment and mixtures thereof.

Representative lubricants for use in heat sensitive recording materials include dispersions or emulsions of stearamide, methylene bisstearamide, polyethylene, carnauba wax, paraffin wax, zinc stearate or calcium stearate and mixtures thereof.

Other additives can also be employed, if necessary. Such additives are for example fluorescent whitening agents and ultraviolet absorbers.

The coating composition so obtained can be applied to a suitable substrate such as paper, plastic sheet and resin coated paper, and used as the heat sensitive recording material. The system of the invention can be employed for other end use applications using colour forming materials, for example, a temperature indicating material.

The quantity of the coating is usually in the range of 2 to 10 g/m², most often in the range 4 to 8g/m².

The recording material containing such a thermosensitive colouring layer can in addition contain a protective layer and, if desired, an undercoat layer. The undercoat layer may be interposed between the substrate and the thermosensitive colouring layer.

The protective layer usually comprises a water-soluble resin in order to protect the thermosensitive colouring layer. If desired, the protective layer may contain water-soluble resins in combination with water-insoluble resins.

As such resins conventional resins can be employed. Specific examples are: polyvinyl alcohol; starch and starch derivatives; cellulose derivatives such as methoxycellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose and ethylcellulose; sodium polyacrylate; polyvinyl pyrrolidone; polyacrylamide/acrylic acid ester copolymers; acrylamide/acrylic acid ester/methacrylic acid copolymers; alkali metal salts of styrene/maleic anhydride copolymers; alkali metal salts of isobutylene/maleic anhydride copolymers; polyacrylamide; sodium alginate; gelatin; casein; water-soluble polyesters and carboxyl-group-modified polyvinyl alcohols.

The protective layer may also contain a water-resisting agent such as a polyamide resin, melamine resin, formaldehyde, glyoxal or chromium alum.

Furthermore, the protective layer may contain fillers, such as finely-divided inorganic powders, e.g. of calcium carbonate, silica, zinc oxide, titanium oxide, aluminium hydroxide, zinc hydroxide, barium sulphate, clay, talc, surface-treated calcium or silica, or a finely-

divided organic powder of, e.g., a urea-formaldehyde resin, a styrene/methacrylic acid copolymer or polystyrene.

The undercoat layer usually contains as its main components a binder resin and a filler.

Specific examples of binder resins for use in the undercoat layer are: polyvinyl alcohol; starch and starch derivatives; cellulose derivatives such as methoxycellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose and ethylcellulose; sodium polyacrylate; polyvinyl pyrrolidone; polyacrylamide/acrylic acid ester copolymers; acrylamide/acrylic acid ester/methacrylic acid copolymers; alkali metal salts of styrene/maleic anhydride copolymers; alkali metal salts of isobutylene/maleic anhydride copolymers; polyacrylamide; sodium alginate; gelatin; casein; water-soluble polymers such as water-soluble polyesters and carboxyl-group-modified polyvinyl alcohols; polyvinyl acetate; polyurethanes; styrene/butadiene copolymers; polyacrylic acid; polyacrylic acid esters; vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate copolymers; polybutylmethacrylate; ethylen/vinylacetate copolymers and styrene/butadiene acrylic derivative copolymers.

Specific examples of fillers for use in the undercoat layer are:

finely-divided inorganic powders, e.g. of calcium carbonate, silica, zinc oxide, titanium oxide, aluminium hydroxide, zinc hydroxide, barium sulphate, clay, talc, surface-treated calcium, silica or calcined clay (eg Ansilex, Engelhard Corp.), and finely-divided organic powders of, e.g., urea-formaldehyde resins, styrene/methacrylic acid copolymers and polystyrene.

In addition, the undercoat layer may contain a water-resisting agent. Examples of such agents are given above.

In particular the invention provides exceptional resistance to plasticiser, oil and heat ageing whilst showing an improved background whiteness.

The following non-limiting examples, illustrate the novel materials of the present invention.

Synthesis Example 1

Preparation of N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-n-butylaminosulphonylphenyl) urea.

To a stirred solution of 4.6g aminobutylbenzenesulphonamide in 10g dimethylformamide at room temperature was added 4.14g toluenesulphonylisocyanate. After three hours at room temperature 0.65g toluenesulphonylisocyanate was added and stirring continued for one hour. To the reaction mixture was added water and methanol to precipitate the product as a white solid which was isolated by filtration and washed with methanol. After drying in vacuo at 80°C the product was obtained in 8.1g yield, melting point 153-153.3°C.

Synthesis Example 2

Preparation of N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(4-trimethylacetophenyl) urea.

A mixture of 22.3g 4-nitrophenyltrimethylacetate and 300g of isopropanol was charged to a Buchi catalytic hydrogenator with 2g 5%Pd-C. The mixture was then hydrogenated at 60°C and 10bar until hydrogen uptake ceased. The reaction mixture was cooled, filtered and the solvent removed to yield 18.7g of 4-aminophenyltrimethylacetate as a white solid, melting point 56.2-56.5°C.

The 4-aminophenyltrimethylacetate 15.4g, was then converted to the product using the method described in Example 1 to give 27g of a white solid which was isolated by filtration and washed with isopropanol, melting point 177.8-178.3°C.

Synthesis Example 3

Preparation of N-(benzenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea.

To a stirred solution of 5.65g m-aminophenol in 45ml acetonitrile was added dropwise 9.5g benzenesulphonylisocyanate such that the temperature was maintained at <40°C. The mixture was stirred for one hour at room temperature and allowed to stand overnight. To the reaction was then added 25ml water and 5.35g 47% caustic soda and the reaction was heated to 55-60°C. To this was added, over two hours, 9.93g p-toluenesulphonylchloride with simultaneous addition of 47% caustic soda so as to maintain the pH between 10 and 11. After two hours at 60°C the reaction mass was neutralised with hydrochloric acid to produce a thick white precipitate of the desired product. This was isolated by filtration and washed with water to give after drying 21.1g of product, melting point 162-170°C.

Synthesis Example 4

Preparation of N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea.

To a solution of 81.75g m-aminophenol in 77.4g 47% caustic soda and 44.3g water at 65°C was added, dropwise over three hours, 143.7g p-toluenesulphonylchloride. The m-toluenesulphonyloxyaniline precipitated during the course of the addition was isolated by filtration and washed alkaline free with water to give 101.4g of solid.

The m-toluenesulphonyloxyaniline was then converted to the product using the method described in Example 1 to give a white solid with melting point 155-159°C.

Synthesis Example 5

Preparation of N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-phenylsulphonyloxyphenyl) urea.

A stirred solution of N-toluenesulphonylethylcarbamate (1.21g), 3-phenylsulphonyloxyaniline (1.24g) and triethylamine (0.55g) in acetonitrile (25ml) was heated under reflux for 22 hours. The reaction mass was allowed to cool and diluted with water to precipitate the product as a white solid.

Synthesis Examples 5a to 44

According to the above synthetic methods the N,N' disubstituted ureas given in the following Table 1 can be prepared.

Table 1

Synthesis	N	N'	Melting	Synthetic
Example			Point	Method
			(°C)	according to
				Example
5a	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Phenyl-	149.5-	4
		sulphonyloxyphenyl	153	
6	p-Toluenesulphonyl	2-p-Toluene-	149.8-	4
		sulphonyloxyphenyl	152.5	
7	p-Toluenesulphonyl	2-Phenyl-	156-	4
		sulphonyloxyphenyl	160.4	

Synthesis	N	N'	Melting	Synthetic
Example			Point	Method
	·		(°C)	according to
			()	Example
8	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Benzoyloxyphenyl	229-231	2
9	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Phenylsulphonyl-	161-163	4
		oxyphenyl		·
10	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Acetoxyphenyl	about	2
			200	
11	p-Toluenesulphonyl	2-p-Toluene-	167-169	4
		sulphonyloxy-5-		
		ethylsulphonyl phenyl		
12	o-Toluenesulphonyl	3-p-Toluene-	178-183	4
		sulphonyloxyphenyl		
13	4-Chlorobenzene	3-p-Toluene-	144-151	4
	sulphonyl	sulphonyloxyphenyl		
14	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-p-Toluene-	190-193	2
		sulphonyloxyphenyl	:	
15	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Butylsulphonyl-	158-163	3
		oxyphenyl		·
16	p-Toluenesulphonyl	2-Methyl-4-p-	176-180	4
		toluenesulphonyl-		
		oxyphenyl		
17	p-Toluenesulphonyl	5-methyl-3-p-	169-171	4
		toluenesulphonyloxy-		
		2-pyrimidyl		
18	p-Toluenesulphonyl	5-p-Toluene-	145-148	4
		sulphonyloxynapthyl		
19	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-p-Tolyloxy-	168-169	3
		sulphonylphenyl		
20	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Octylsulphonyl-		3
	-	oxyphenyl		
21	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Hexadecyl-	153-159	3
		sulphonyloxyphenyl		

Synthesis	N	N'	Melting	Synthetic
Example			Point	Method
	·		(°C)	according to
				Example
22	Octylsulphonyl	3-p-Toluene-	118-120	5
		sulphonyloxyphenyl		
23	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Phenylsulphonyl	161-163	4
		oxyphenyl		
24	Phenylsulphonyl	3-(p-	149-	4
	•	Toluenesulphonyl	151.6	
		oxy)phenyl		
25	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Trimethyl		3
		acetoxyphenyl		
26	4-Chlorophenyl	4-(p-	177.8-	4
7	sulphonyl	Toluenesulphonyl	179	
		oxy)phenyl		
27	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Acetophenyl	184.5-	1
,			185.5	•
28	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Acetamido	192.8-	1
		sulphonylphenyl	193.2	
29	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(Ethoxycarbonyl	186.8-	3
		oxy)phenyl	188	
30	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(Ethoxycarbamyl)	139.8-	2
		phenyl	141	
31	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(2-napthyl sulphonyl	151.2-	3
		oxy)phenyl	152	
32	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Benzoylphenyl	185-187	1
33	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(4-	193.5-	2
		toluenesulphonylamin	195.3	·
		o)phenyl		
34	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Acetaminophenyl	192.8-	2
		}	193.7	1
35	4-Chloro	4-Trimethyl	187-	2
	phenylsulphonyl	acetamidophenyl	189.4	İ

Synthesis	N	N'	Melting	Synthetic
Example		*	Point	Method
			(°C)	according to
				Example
36	Benzenesulphonyl	4-Trimethyl	159-167	2
		acetamidophenyl		
37	4-Chloro	2-(p-	161-164	4
	phenylsulphonyl	Toluenesulphonyl		
		oxy)phenyl		
38	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(N,N-di-p-Toluene-	162.5-	1
		sulphonyl)amino-	165	
		phenyl		
39	Benzenesulphonyl	2-(p-Toluenesulpho-	157-160	4
		nyloxy)phenyl		
40	4-Chloro	4-Acetamido	187-188	1
	phenylsulphonyl	sulphonylphenyl		
41	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-(Diphenyl	140-	3
		phosphinyl)phenyl	141.5	
42	p-Toluenesulphonyl	4-Benzyloxyphenyl	154-	1
			155.3	
43	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Benzyloxyphenyl	153.9-	1
			155.3	
44	p-Toluenesulphonyl	3-Phenyloxyphenyl	166.5-	1
			168.5	

Synthesis Example 45

Preparation of a monophase solid solution from 2'-carboxy-4-dibutylamino-2-hydroxybenzophenone (90mol%) and 2'-carboxy-4-diethylamino-2-hydroxybenzophenone (10mol%).

To 249.5g of 98% sulphuric acid and 61.2g oleum was added, 78.97g of 2'-carboxy-4-dibutylamino-2-hydroxybenzophenone and 7.44g of 2'-carboxy-4-diethylamino-2-hydroxybenzophenone over about 2hr with the temperature being maintained below about 25°C by use of an ice-bath. Once in solution, 50.7g of 4-methoxy-2-methyldiphenylamine

was added and the mixture was stirred for about 3hr at 30°C. The reaction mass was then added, over about 30 minutes with stirring, to a mixture of 135g toluene-45g water at 85°C. To this was then added, over 30 minutes, 135.7g water. Agitation was ceased and the separated aqueous phase was removed. To the remaining organic phase was added 244g sodium hydroxide 100°TW, 199g toluene and 387g water and the reaction was stirred for 2h at 85°C. The reaction was cooled to 25°C and the precipitated product was isolated by filtration. The product was washed with hot water (about 60°C) then methanol and dried to yield 106.2g of a monophase solid solution (melting point 179.9-181.4°C).

Example 1

Preparation of heat sensitive coating formulations containing N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea.

Dispersions A to C were prepared by grinding the compositions shown below in an attritor until an average particle size of 1-1.5µ was attained.

3.01 parts

3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran

Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	10.50 parts
Water	6.49 parts
	•
Dispersion B (Colour Developer)	
N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-	

(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea	7.5 parts
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	7.5 parts
Water	22.5 parts

Dispersion C (Sensitiser)

parabenzylbiphenyl	10.0	parts
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	10.0	parts
Water	20.0	parts

A thermal coating mixture was then prepared by combining together the following components:

	parts by weight
Dispersion A	6.6
Dispersion B	10.0
Dispersion C	6.0
Calcium Carbonate (25% aqueous dispersion) 12.0
Zinc stearate (33% aqueous dispersion)	0.9
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	4.5
Tinopal® ABP-X (fluorescent whitening agent)	0.12
Water	2.48

This coating mixture was applied on one side of a base paper weighing 50 g/m² in a coating weight of about 5.0 g/m² and then dried. The resulting sheet was calendered by means of a laboratory calender to produce a recording sheet with excellent background whiteness.

The heat sensitive recording paper obtained demonstrates excellent background whiteness of paper after application of the coating liquid and in storage stability, i.e. resistance to light, heat and moisture, of uncoloured portion of the coated paper and excellent resistance of the image to cottonseed oil, plasticiser, heat, heat and moisture, water. Additionally, the recording paper obtained shows a high dynamic sensitivity.

DESCRIPTION OF TEST METHODS:

Background Whiteness Before and After Ageing:

This test assesses the effects of heat and moisture on unprinted thermal paper.

The whiteness of unprinted paper is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer, before and after ageing for one hour at 60°C and 50% R.H.

Dynamic Sensitivity at Various Pulse Widths:

This test assesses the sensitivity and intensity of the image produced on thermal paper.

Ten individual print areas are printed with increased amounts of energy using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The optical density of each image is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer.

<u>Lightfastness Tests (120 Hours Exposure):</u>

This test assesses the stability of the thermal paper, including the image, after exposure to sunlight.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The image including background is placed at a distance of 8cm below 40W fluorescent tubes emitting artificial sunlight (approximately 1200 Lux) for 120 hours. The optical density of the image and background whiteness of the paper are measured before and after exposure with a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer.

Cottonseed Oil Resistance of Image:

This test assesses the stability of the image when exposed to cottonseed oil.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. Cottonseed oil is then Gravure printed onto the image which is then stored at 40°C for 24 hours. The optical density of the image is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer before and after exposure.

Plasticiser Resistance of Image and Background:

This test assesses the stability of the image and background when exposed to PVC containing 20-25% phthalate ester-type plasticiser.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The image is put into contact with the PVC under 107g cm⁻² pressure for 24 hours at 50°C. The optical density of the image and background are measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer before and after exposure.

Waterfastness of Image:

This test assesses the stability of the image after immersion in water.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The image is immersed in de-ionised water at room temperature for 24 hours. The optical density of the image is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer before and after immersion.

Heat and Moisture Resistance of Image:

This test assesses the effects of heat and moisture on the image.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The image is aged at 60°C at 70% R.H. for 24 hours. The optical density of the image is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer before and after exposure.

Heat Resistance of Image and Background at 80°C:

This test assesses the effect of heat on both the image and background of thermal paper.

An image is produced using an Atlantek thermal response tester model 200. The image is aged at 80°C for 24 hours. The optical density of the image and background are measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer before and after exposure.

Static Sensitivity and Background Storage Stability

This test determines the thermal sensitivity of thermal paper.

Thermal paper is exposed to a range of temperatures for a fixed period of 1 second. Twelve separately heated blocks at 50°, 60°, 70°, 75°, 80°, 85°, 90°, 95°, 100°, 110°, 120° and 150°C are applied to the paper to produce an image. The optical density of each image is measured using a Macbeth 1200 series Densitometer.

From the static sensitivity, the temperature at which a density of 0.2 occurs is calculated This temperature gives an indication of the background storage stability of the paper.

Examples 2 to 48

The following Table 2 shows the colour former/developer/sensitiser combinations that were used in each example. The heat sensitive recording material was prepared by the method described in example 1. In all cases, the heat sensitive recording paper thus obtained demonstrates excellent background whiteness of paper after application of the coating liquid and in storage stability, i.e. resistance to light, heat and moisture, of uncoloured portion of the coated paper and excellent resistance of the image to cottonseed oil, plasticiser, heat, heat and moisture, water.

Table 2

Example	Colour Former	Sensitiser	Developer
2	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 4
3	3-diethylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 4
4	3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran		Example 4
5	3-(N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino)-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran		Example 4
6	3-(N-propyl-N-methylamino)-6-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran		Example 4
7	monophase solid solution of 3-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-		Example 4
	anilinofluoran (9 parts) and 3-		*
	diethylamino-6-methyl-7-		
	anilinofluoran (1 part)		
8	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	2-Benzyloxy	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	naphthalene	Example 4
9	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	Ethyleneglycolbis-m-	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	tolylether.	Example 4

Example	Colour Former	Sensitiser	Developer
10	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	oxalate	Example 4
11	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	1,4-diproprionyloxy	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	benzene	Example 4
12	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 5
13	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 6
14	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 7
15	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 8
16	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 9
17	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	,	Example 10
18	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 11
19	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 12
20	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 2
21	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 13
22	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 14
23	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	*	Example 1

24	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 15
25	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran (75 parts) and 3-		Example 4
	diethylamino-6-methyl-7-		
	anilinofluoran (25 parts)		
26	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran (50 parts) and 3-		Example 4
	diethylamino-6-methyl-7-		
	anilinofluoran (50 parts)		
27	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran (25 parts) and 3-		Example 4
	diethylamino-6-methyl-7-		·
	anilinofluoran (75 parts)		·
28	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	1,4-diproprionyloxy	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	benzene	Example 5a
29	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	none	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 4
30	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	1,2-Bis(3,4-dimethyl-	Synthesis
-	anilinofluoran	phenyl) ethane	Example 4
31	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	1,2-Diphenoxyethane	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 4
32	3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran	oxalate	Example 4
33	3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-	1,2-Diphenoxyethane	Synthesis
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran		Example 4
34	3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	Synthesis
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran	oxalate	Example 4
35	3-(N-propyl-N-methylamino)-6-	2-Benzyloxy	Synthesis
,	methyl-7-anilinofluoran	naphthalene	Example 4

36	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	p-Tolylbiphenyl ether	Synthesis
	anilinofluoran		Example 4
37	3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-	2-Benzyloxy	Synthesis
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran	naphthalene	Example 4
38	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	parabenzylbiphenyl	*
	anilinofluoran		
39	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	2-Benzyloxy	*
	anilinofluoran	naphthalene	
40	3-(N-ethyl-N-isoamylamino)-6-	2-Benzyloxy	•
	methyl-7-anilinofluoran	naphthalene	
41	3-dipentylamino-6-methyl-7-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	*
	anilinofluoran	oxalate	
42	3-(4-diethylamino-2-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	•
	ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-	oxalate	
	methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide		
43	3-(4-diethylamino-2-	parabenzylbiphenyl	4
	ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-		
	methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide		ŕ
44	3-(4-diethylamino-2-	1,2-Diphenoxyethane	4
·	ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-		
	methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide		
45	3-(4-diethylamino-2-	Ethyleneglycolbis-m-	4
	ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-	tolylether	
	methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide		
46	3-(4-diethylamino-2-	Di-(p-Methylbenzyl)	4
	ethoxyphenyl)-3-(1-octyl-2-	oxalate	
	methylindole-3-yl)-4-azaphthalide		
47	3,3-bis(p-dimethylaminophenyl)-6-	parabenzylbiphenyl	4
	dimethylaminophthalide		
48	3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-	N-phenyl phenyl	4
	anilinofluoran	sulphonamide	

^{*} Developer used in conjunction with a stabiliser, formulation described below;

Example 49

Preparation of heat sensitive coating formulations containing N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea and a stabiliser.

Dispersions A to D were prepared by grinding the compositions shown below in an attritor until an average particle size of 1-1.5µ was attained.

3-dibutylamino-6-methyl-7-anilinofluoran	3.01 parts
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	10.50 parts
Water	6.49 parts

Dispersion B (Colour Developer)

N-(p-toluenesulphonyl)-N'-

(3-p-toluenesulphonyloxyphenyl) urea7.5 partsPolyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)7.5 partsWater22.5 parts

Dispersion C (Sensitiser)

parabenzylbiphenyl	10.0 parts
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	10.0 parts
Water	20.0 parts

Dispersion D (Stabiliser)

1,1,3-tris(3'-cyclohexyl-4'-hydroxy-6'-

methylphenyl)butane 7.5 parts
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution) 7.5 parts
Water 22.5 parts

A thermal coating mixture was then prepared by combining together the following components:

parts by weight

Dispersion A

6.6

Dispersion B	10.0
Dispersion C	6.0
Dispersion D	2.5
Calcium Carbonate (25% aqueous dispersion)	12.0
Zinc stearate (33% aqueous dispersion)	0.9
Polyvinyl alcohol (10% aqueous solution)	4.5
Tinopal® ABP-X (fluorescent whitening agent)	0.12
Water	2.48

This coating mixture was applied on one side of a base paper weighing 50 g/m² in a coating weight of about 5.0 g/m² and then dried. The resulting sheet was calendered by means of a laboratory calender to produce a recording sheet with excellent background whiteness.

<u>Claims</u>

- 1. A heat sensitive recording material, comprising
- a) at least one colour forming compound, and
- b) at least one developer of the formula

$$R_1 = S = N = X - N = A - B = R_2$$

$$O$$

$$O$$

$$O$$

$$O$$

$$O$$

wherein

R₁ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl,

A is unsubstituted or substituted phenylene, naphthylene or C₁-C₁₂alkylene, or is an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic group,

B is a linking group of formula $-O-SO_2$ -, $-SO_2-O-$, $-NH-SO_2$ -, $-SO_2-NH-$, $-S-SO_2$ -, -O-CO-, -O-CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, -NH-CO-, -S-CO-NH-, -S-CS-NH-, $-CO-NH-SO_2$ -, $-O-CO-NH-SO_2$ -, -NH=CH-, -CO-NH-CO-, -S-, -CO-, -O-, $-SO_2-NH-CO-$, -O-CO-O- and $-O-PO-(OR_2)_2$, and -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-NH-CO-, and -CO-NH-CO-, -CO-N

with the proviso, that, if B is not a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C_1 - C_8 alkyl and that, if B is -O-, R_2 is not alkyl..

- 2. A recording material according to claim 1, wherein
- R₁ is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen.
- 3. A recording material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein
- R₁ is phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen.
- 4. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein
- R₁ is phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl, preferably methyl.
- 5. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein

X is a group of the formula

- 6. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein

 A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted

 C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy-substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy, halogen-substituted

 C₁-C₈alkoxy, C₁-C₈alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl;

 or is naphthylene; or C₁-C₁₂alkylene; or pyrimidylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by

 C₁-C₈alkyl.
- 7. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein

 A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted

 C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy-substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy, halogen-substituted

 C₁-C₈alkoxy, C₁-C₈alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl.
- 8. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein
 A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted
 C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkylsulphonyl or halogen.
- 9. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein
 A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, preferably unsubstituted phenylene.
- 10. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 9, wherein B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O-, -SO₂-NH-, -S-SO₂-, -O-CO-, -O-CO-NH-, -SO₂-NH-CO-, -O-CO-O- or -O-PO-(OR₂)₂, preferably a linking group of formula -O-, -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O- or -SO₂-NH-.
- 11. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-.
- 12. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 10, whereinB is a linking group of formula -O- and R₂ is unsubstituted or substituted anyl or benzyl.

- 13. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein R₂ is C₁-C₆alkyl; halogen-substituted C₁-C₆alkyl; phenyl-substituted C₁-C₆alkyl; naphthyl-substituted C₁-C₆alkyl; phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy-substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy, halogen-substituted C₁-C₈alkoxy or halogen; naphthyl and benzyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen.
- 14. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein R₂ is C₁-C₄alkyl; halogen-substituted C₁-C₄alkyl; phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen; naphthyl or benzyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen.
- 15. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein R_2 is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl.
- 16. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 15, wherein R_1 is phenyl which is substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkyl, preferably methyl,

X is a group of the formula

A is phenylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, preferably unsubstituted phenylene,

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂- or -O-, and R₂ is phenyl or benzyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl.

- 17. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 16, wherein the recording material comprises at least one sensitiser.
- 18. A recording material according to claim 17, wherein the recording material comprises at least one sensitiser selected from the group consisting of stearamide, methylol stearamide, p-benzylbiphenyl, m-terphenyl, 2-benzyloxynaphthalene, 4-methoxybiphenyl, dibenzyl oxalate, di(4-methylbenzyl) oxalate, di(4-chlorobenzyl) oxalate, dimethyl phthalate, dibenzyl terephthalate, dibenzyl isophthalate, 1,2-diphenoxyethane, 1,2-bis(4-methylphenoxy) ethane, 1,2-bis(3-methylphenoxy) ethane, 4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl, phenyl-1-hydroxy-2-naphthoate, 4-

methylphenyl biphenyl ether, 1,2-bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl) ethane, 2,3,5,6-4'-methyldiphenyl methane, 1,4-diethoxynaphthalene, 1,4-diacetoxybenzene, 1,4-diproprionoxybenzene, o-xylylene-bis(phenyl ether), 4-(m-methylphenoxymethyl) biphenyl, p-hydroxyacetanilide, p-hydroxybutyranilide, p-hydroxynonananilide, p-hydroxylauranilide, p-hydroxyoctadecananilide, N-phenyl-phenylsulphonamide and sensitisers of the formula

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
C \\
C \\
R
\end{array}$$
(3),

wherein R and R' are identical or different from each other and each represent C1-C6alkyl.

- 19. A recording material according to any of claims 1 to 18, wherein the recording material comprises at least one stabiliser.
- 20. A recording material according to claim 18, wherein the recording material comprises at least one stabiliser selected from the group consisting of 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 2,2'-methylene-bis(4-ethyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-butylidene-bis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol), 4,4'-thio-bis(2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenyl) butane, 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-cyclohexylphenyl) butane, bis (3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-6-methylphenyl) sulfone, bis (3,5-dibromo-4-hydroxyphenyl) sulfone, 4,4'-sulfinyl bis (2-tert-butyl-5-methylphenol), 2,2'-methylene bis (4,6-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate and alkali metal, ammonium and polyvalent metal salts thereof, 4-benzyloxy-4'-(2-methylglycidyloxy) diphenyl sulfone, 4,4'-diglycidyloxydiphenyl sulfone, 1,4-diglycidyloxybenzene, 4-[α-(hydroxymethyl)benzyloxy]-4-hydroxydiphenyl sulfone, metal salts of p-nitrobenzoic acid, metal salts of phthalic acid mono benzyl ester, metal salts of cinnamic acid and mixtures thereof.

21. A compound of the formula

$$R_1 = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{cases} = X - N - X$$

wherein

R₁ is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl,

R₃ and R₄ independently of each other are hydrogen, C₁-C₈alkyl, halogen-substituted C₁-C₈alkyl, C₁-C₈alkoxy-substituted C₁-C₈alkoxy, halogen-substituted C₁-C₈alkoxy, C₁-C₈alkylsulphonyl, halogen, phenyl, phenoxy or phenoxycarbonyl,

X is a group of the formula $\begin{array}{c|cccc} NH & S & O \\ & & & \\ -C- & -C- & -C- \end{array}$

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, -SO₂-O-, -SO₂-NH-, -O-CO- or -CO-NH-SO₂-, and R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C_1 - C_{20} alkyl, with the proviso, that, if B is not a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, R_2 is unsubstituted or substituted phenyl, naphthyl or C_1 - C_8 alkyl.

22. A compound according to claim 21, wherein R₁ is phenyl which is substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl, preferably methyl,

X is a group of the formula

R₃ and R₄ independently of each other are hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen, preferably hydrogen,

B is a linking group of formula -O-SO₂-, and

R₂ is phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by C₁-C₄alkyl.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter: nal Application No PCT/EP 99/09473

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B41M5/30 C07C311/60 C07C317/50 C07C311/62 C07C311/51

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B41M . C07C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	EP 0 701 905 A (NEW OJI PAPER) 20 March 1996 (1996-03-20) page 3 -page 5; claims 1-4	1-22
X	EP 0 526 072 A (OJI PAPER) 3 February 1993 (1993-02-03) page 3 -page 4	1-22
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 03, 31 March 1997 (1997-03-31) & JP 08 295081 A (NEW OJI PAPER), 12 November 1996 (1996-11-12) abstract	1-21

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Σ Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E earlier document but published on or after the international filling date L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention invention of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
8 May 2000	16/05/2000
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijawijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	English, R

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter mail Application No PCT/EP 99/09473

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	EP 0 535 887 A (OJI PAPER) 7 April 1993 (1993-04-07)	1-22
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